

# The Greener Side of Winter ...

Winter 2012 Holiday Edition

Publication by the City of Muscatine, Solid Waste Division of Public Works



## We Wish You a Merry Christmas...

This Christmas carol greeting can be heard throughout the season, and it certainly brings joy to all of us to wish our family, friends, and those close to us the best for this special time of the year.



In this holiday edition, you will find information on services for the holidays, tips for a greener holiday, and what is coming up for the winter months from the Solid Waste Division of Public Works.

The staff of the Solid Waste Division of Public Works wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## Reclaim your holidays

Here are some successful tips from Reclaim Your Holiday.org.



### 1. Identify 1-3 priorities for this holiday season

Make a list of what you want this holiday season. Decide on the events or activities that mean the most to you and your family to do.

### 2. Make time for your priorities

Unplug the TV, Internet, electronic games, or whatever takes time and energy away from your priorities.

### 3. Seek support to facilitate success

Share your priorities with others and get support. Those around you will be more helpful if they know what you want to achieve.

### 4. Consider the environment when making gift-giving decisions.

Who needs more stuff? The gift of service, music, the arts, or food is just as valuable to others than another item that they do not know what to do with.

### 5. Invest in something larger than yourself.

Volunteering in your community can be the most valuable gift you can ever give. Purchasing an animal for a village or well in a 3rd World country in someone's name can be a wonderful gift. It was in the thought of them, but benefits others.

## Decorating to Bring Back Memories

By: Laura Liegois - Solid Waste Manager

There is something about the mixture of old and new at the holidays that gives a special touch to the season. As I have explained in numerous past articles, I am a girl on a mission when looking for a bargain. I am also a girl on a mission when looking for vintage items that can be mixed with modern day styles. It is the nostalgic magic that brings charm to an item that may spark the memory of events of the past.

A good example is the set of cookie cutters I own. I have inherited numerous ones from my mother-in-law and have purchased some that remind me of ones my mother owns. Each time I use them, I remember baking cookies when I was younger never forgetting the great frosting event that took place each year before Christmas. The sprinkles and red hot candies that became Rudolph's nose were always a hit. The best part was eating the ones that just didn't turn out right for the cookie platter.



To some, vintage is junk or useless things of the past. To others it is part of history. I see it as part of history making its presence known the second time around. The value of reuse never goes out of style.

To others, like me, vintage means bringing back memories or adding a piece of history to the present. Here are ways to add a little history while gift giving?

1. Know who vintage items are for. Purchasing something that is vintage for someone who does not appreciate it, will be not the right gift.
2. Find an item that has meaning to the person receiving it. Purchasing an old book collection may not be special to someone who does not have the desire for reading and books.
3. Shop the local antique stores, second hand thrift stores, auctions, flea markets, and estate tag sales. We have many shops that can help you on your search in Muscatine for vintage or antiques.
4. Call into the local "Buy, Sell, and Trade" radio show on KWPC and ask if someone may have an item you are looking for.
5. Enjoy picking out an item because it was "specially" picked for the person receiving it.

Remember, it is the thought that counts in this gift giving season. Make it a gift that will be remembered for many years to come.

## Calendar of Events:

### Saturday, January 19, 2013:

Drop off dresses for the Recycle the Dress Event from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Muscatine Recycling Center and Transfer Station



### Saturday, February 9, 2013:

Recycle the Dress Event is from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Muscatine Recycling Center and Transfer Station



### Friday, April 19, 2013:

Earth Day Celebration 2012 from 4-7 p.m. at the Nature Center and Discovery Park

## Green Tips for the Holidays

More great tips from the Reclaim Your Holidays. Org.



### Plan A Green Get Together:

Decorate with nature in mind by using natural items such plants, berries, pinecones, and branches. Use LED lights. They use 90% less energy than traditional lights.

When inviting people to your green get together, use your e-mail or text messaging to send out the invitation.

Purchase only the food you need for a green event. Create a easy menu and consider locally grown food. Remember food is a part of the celebration, but not the whole event.

Plan special activities such as games to help take up time at the event. Have your guests each bring something of a fond memory of one of their Christmases past. Sharing is part of the fun in the holiday season.

Get out the China dishes or other good dishes that never get used! Celebrate with style. Do not use disposable dishes.

## Christmas Tree Recycling



City of Muscatine and Fruitland residents can recycle their Christmas trees on their regular refuse collection day.

Please do the following for recycling:

- Remove all decorations and stand
- Do not put a plastic bag on the tree
- Place tree at the curb where you normally place your garbage to be collected.



## Recycling for the Holidays...



The City of Muscatine and Muscatine County residents who have excess recycling during the holiday season can utilize the public drop off area outside of the Compost and Transfer Station facilities. It is located at 1000 S. Houser St.

All items must be sorted before going into the drop off trailers. Cardboard needs to be broken down to allow for more room for others using the facility.

## Thank You For Recycling....



# ***2012 Holiday Hours and Services***

## **The Muscatine Recycling Center and Transfer Station Holiday Hours for Christmas and New Year's are as follows:**

**Christmas:** Monday, December 24, 2012 - Closed  
Tuesday, December 25, 2012 - Closed

**New Year's:** Monday, December 31, 2012 – 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM  
Tuesday, January 1, 2013– Closed

## **City of Muscatine and Fruitland Refuse Collection Schedules**

**Christmas:** Friday, December 21, 2012 - Friday and Monday Routes  
Monday, December 24, 2012 - No Collection  
Tuesday, December 25, 2012 – No Collection  
Wednesday, December 26, 2012 - Tuesday and Wednesday Routes

**New Year's:** Monday, December 31, 2012 - Monday Routes  
Tuesday, January 1, 2013 - No Collection  
Wednesday, January 2, 2013 - Tuesday and Wednesday Routes

## **Curbside Recycling for the City of Muscatine and Fruitland**

**Christmas (Route A) :** Monday, December 24, 2012 - Monday Routes  
Tuesday, December 25, 2012 - No Collection  
Wednesday, December 26, 2012 - Tuesday Routes  
Thursday, December 27, 2012 - Wednesday Routes  
Friday, December 28, 2012 - Thursday Routes  
Saturday, December 29, 2012 - Friday Routes

**New Year's (Route B):** Monday December 31, 2012 - Monday Routes  
Tuesday, January 1, 2013 - No Collection  
Wednesday, January 2 2013 - Tuesday Routes  
Thursday, January 3, 2013 - Wednesday Routes  
Friday, January 4, 2013 - Thursday Routes  
Saturday, January 5, 2013 - Friday Routes

*The Staff of the Solid Waste Division Wish All of Our Customers Happy Holidays*





# Recycle The Dress Event PROM 2013



Recycle the Dress for Prom 2012 was a HUGE success! Approximately 90 girls from the Muscatine County area went to prom with gorgeous dresses donated by generous people. If you have a prom or a formal dress that has not been out on a date in a while, please donate it to the Recycle The Dress Event Prom 2013.

Donations of prom/formal dresses that are in good condition will be given to high school girls who are going to prom. Dresses will be given out on a first come, first serve basis to girls who come on **Saturday, February 9, 2013** at the Muscatine Recycling Center and Transfer Station, Upstairs Conference Room. 9:00 A.M.– Noon.

**To donate dresses to the Recycle The Dress Event, please bring dresses to:**

**Saturday, January 19, 2013**

9:00 A.M.– Noon

The Muscatine Recycling Center and Transfer Station

1000 S. Houser St. Muscatine, Iowa

For more information contact Laura Liegois - Solid Waste Manager  
563-263-9689 or [lliegois@muscatineiowa.gov](mailto:lliegois@muscatineiowa.gov)

*The Recycle The Dress Event is part of reduce, reuse, and recycle education outreach by the Muscatine Recycling Center and Transfer Station. For more information on services and programs, visit [www.muscatineiowa.gov](http://www.muscatineiowa.gov)*